

IMPROVISED LIMB TOURNIQUET



CAUTION: An improvised tourniquet should be used only as a last resort when a CoTCCC-recommended tourniquet is NOT available.



CONSIDER body substance isolation.

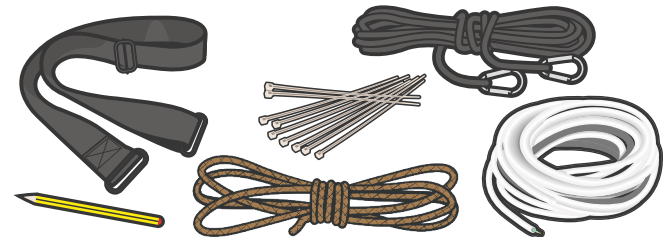
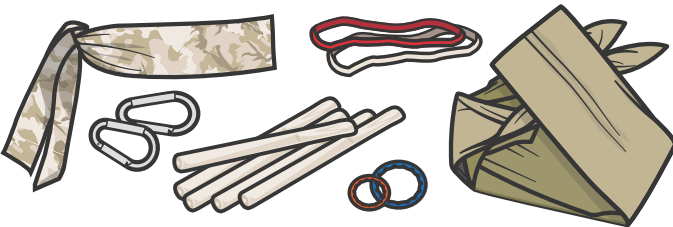
NOTE: If a Combat Lifesaver is available, direct them to assist.

01 EXPOSE the injury and assess the bleeding source.
NOTE: Clothing may need to be cut away to properly expose the injury.

02 APPLY direct pressure while gathering materials for an improvised tourniquet.



03 Rapidly **GATHER** and **PREPARE** appropriate improvised tourniquet materials.



Strap, cloth, or flexible material greater than 40 inches in length and folded to at least 2 inches in width (cravat, bandana, strip of trouser leg or towel, necktie).

Rigid object for windlass device 1/4-1 inch in diameter and 4-6 inches in length (wooden dowel/stick, broom/mop handle, weapons cleaning rod, freshly cut tree limb).

Optional locking ring (keyring, ring seal of commercial liquid bottle, heavy rubber band, or hairband).



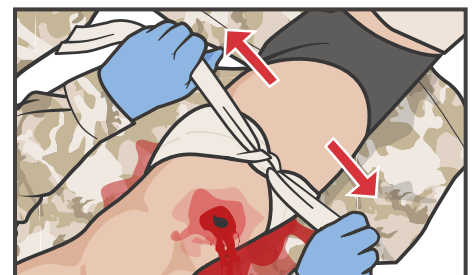
Inappropriate materials include electric cords, belts, wire, or material less than 2 inches wide; single pens/pencils, ground clutter wood, polished metal objects, boot/shoelaces, zip ties.



04 IDENTIFY application site 2-3" above the bleeding site. If bleeding is at the joint, application site is 2-3" above the joint.



05 ROUTE the strap under the limb at the application site. (If using an optional locking ring, then route the strap through the ring.)



06 TIE the first half of a square knot tightly and evenly (if using optional locking ring, ensure the ring device is approximately 2" away from the knot).

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